

Coburn Amendment #70—To ensure that authorizing committees receive timely information from the Department of Homeland Security.

Background: With the DHS Title of the bill, the CR includes approximately nine reports to Congress. However, the language requires those reports from DHS and other agencies to only be submitted to the Appropriation Committees, not the authorizing committees.

This amendment would require that the authorizing committees (Senate HSGAC and House Homeland Security Committee) also receive those reports.

This Bill Shows One of the Problems with Congress—Authorizing Committees Are Transferring Too Much Authority to the Appropriators.

As the ranking member of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I believe that our authorizing committees need to be actively setting policy for and conducting oversight of the agencies within our jurisdiction.

It is our responsibility to be reforming and improving the work that the agencies in our jurisdiction do a better job on behalf of American taxpayers.

For our committee, that means working actively with the Department of Homeland Security to hold DHS accountable and to improve its performance.

That is why I am offering this amendment, which would require that all mandated reports in the DHS title of this bill be submitted to the authorizing committee, not just the appropriators.